

**FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE
KEY WEST BUREAU**



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MFL-7060
8 June 1987

MEMORANDUM TO: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service
THROUGH: Chief, Operations Group
SUBJECT: Monthly Report--Key West Bureau--May 1987

I. GENERAL

Our Haitian contractor, [redacted] was cleared this month and arrived in Key West on 28 May for 3 weeks of intensive training before returning to Port-au-Prince to begin monitoring a variety of French and Creole broadcasts. With a little luck and a prayer that all the equipment arrives on time and in not too many pieces, we hope to open shop in the Embassy on 22 June.

STAT

II. OPERATIONS

A. Monitorial/Editorial

1. We had great excitement here on 28 May when a high-ranking Cuban military officer and a collection of various family members landed their small Cessna at the Naval Air Station and asked for political asylum. We later picked up a Havana Radio Progreso announcement that the officer's first wife and mother of his son had asked the Cuban Government to seek the extradition of her child, who she claimed had been kidnapped. She added that she wanted her son to return to Cuba to live and even "give his life if necessary for our revolution."

2. Earlier in the month, we also got pulled into the world of espionage when we monitored a Havana TV announcement that Cuban authorities had arrested a brother/sister team as "CIA agents." The Miami-based sister had reportedly taught her brother the fine art of clandestine radio operations during her supposedly innocent family visits. At month's end, the Cuban media had reported no more on their fate.

3. After consultation with Panama Bureau and Headquarters, we agreed to retain our subscription to the NOTIMEX press agency as a backstop for Mexican news, particularly since Panama is totally dependent on ROSET coverage of Mexico. However, Panama plans to lower its selection threshold of Mexican TV to enable us to reduce our NOTIMEX workload.

4. Our new remote site antenna is already paying for itself by allowing us to bring in two Santo Domingo radio stations, including one that carries a relay of the government-controlled

Radio-Television Dominicana. Coverage of the Dominican Republic has been a persistent problem over the years due to a variety of reception difficulties.

B. Communications

1. Bureau Engineer [] spent most of the month "demystifying" our new communications system. Cables and blackbox configurations as well as control functions were analyzed to give Wolf the basis to troubleshoot the system. In the process, we gained a better appreciation for "prototyping" by working closely with experts from ADD, Lockheed, and the Miami Switch to solve a signal flow problem that was causing many of our incoming messages to garble. STAT

2. We helped discover a programming error in our Transmit communications software this month when [] questioned why we were pinkie coding the reference lines in our traffic. Despite suspicion that the bureau chief was sneaking into the commo room undetected to put everything in upper case, we were eventually able to prove our innocence. ADD was then able to track down and write a correction to the Transmit software. STAT

3. We were out of commo for nearly seven hours on 18 May when a contractor cut the main Southern Bell fiber optics cable between here and Miami. It was the fourth time in 10 months that a contractor had put the Lower Keys out of communications.

C. Lateral Services

The American Embassy in Managua asked us at mid-month for a refile of our coverage of a press conference given by Nicaraguan Vice President Ramirez during his unannounced 9 May visit to Mexico City. Our NOTIMEX report on the visit apparently was the first indication that Ramirez was in Mexico.

D. Technical

Radio Marti fired up its portable transmitter on 20 May and began transmitting from Saddlebunch Key, some 15 miles north of the bureau, after a series of false starts going back to the first of the year. The Saddlebunch transmitter will be used for approximately 6 months until Radio Marti's facility at Marathon, approximately 50 miles north of the bureau, is completely renovated. Field strength measurements at the bureau show that the signals from Saddlebunch are about two and a half times more powerful than those from Marathon. Radio Broadcast Monitor [] is keeping his ears tuned to the closer and more powerful transmitter that has an Effective Radiated Power of 176 kilowatts. STAT

E. Cruising

[] spent a full day at the bureau Sunday, 31 May, STAT
monitoring and phonepatching to VOA in Washington a recently
initiated Moscow in English broadcast aimed at the southeastern
United States. The new mediumwave transmission, which is relayed via
Havana, broadcasts on 1040 kHz, the same frequency used by two south
Florida radio stations. Although we heard the entire 10-hour program
(every Sunday and every other Saturday) loud and clear here, it
apparently did not carry too well north of the Miami area.

III. ADMINISTRATION

A. Personnel

1. The bureau welcomed [] as a part-time STAT
associate monitor/editor this month. [] entered on duty 18 May. STAT

2. Two promising teletypist candidates, [] STAT
[] applied for our vacant full-time and part-time STAT
positions this month.

3. We greeted our newest TDYers from Panama in May, [] STAT
[] who arrived to relieve [] STAT
[] who had helped us out so well. STAT

B. Buildings and Grounds

1. We received delegation of authority this month to
proceed with some building projects here at the bureau. One of the
projects--replacing our rusted out metal shed with a concrete block
building--will come none too soon, since part of the roof of the shed
finally collapsed after too many years of constant exposure to beach
life.

2. Our monitors now have both a functional as well as
esthetically pleasing book shelf unit on each of their work stations
to accomodate all their reference materials that had previously been
piling up helter skelter.

IV. VISITS

To the bureau:

1. [] CRW, 5-8 May. STAT
2. [] C/RECD, 16 May.
3. Barry Nadler, FCC Ft Lauderdale, 18 May.
4. Lt. j.g. Snow, CINCLANT, and [] DIA, orientation STAT
from U.S. Forces Caribbean, 21 May.

V. COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Bureau personnel stopped all activities for a short while on 15 May to help [] celebrate his auspicious 60th birthday. True to form, [] could not sit home and relax, even though he had told everyone the previous day that a man had a right to do whatever he pleases on such a milestone and he planned to go fishing.

STAT
STAT

STAT

[]
Chief, Key West Bureau

Attachments:

Nonexpendable Property Report
Production Report

cc: C/Panama, C/Paraguay

KEY WEST BUREAU PRODUCTION REPORT FOR MAY 1987

I. TOTALS FROM ALL SOURCES:

TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH: 140,130

TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH : 38,430

TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH : 480

	BROADCAST	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLICATIONS
II. INPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE:	2,575	14,700	21
(PUBLISHABLE WORDS PER WEEK	MIN	MIN	ISSUES
III. OUTPUT FROM ALL SOURCES:			
(PUBLISHABLE WORDS PER MONTH)			

BAHAMAS

Nassau Domestic Service in English	<u>1,020</u>		
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Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English			<u>-0-</u>
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BARBADOS

Bridgetown CANA in English		<u>50,980</u>	
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Bridgetown ADVOCATE in English			<u>-0-</u>
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Bridgetown SUNDAY ADVOCATE in English			<u>-0-</u>
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BELIZE

Belize City Domestic Service in English	<u>600</u>		
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Belize Times in English			<u>-0-</u>
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CUBA

Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish	<u>4,740</u>		
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Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish	<u>16,790</u>		
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Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish	<u>2,340</u>		
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Havana Radio Periodico Del Aire in Spanish	<u>2,390</u>		
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KEY WEST BUREAU PRODUCTION REPORT FOR MAY 1987

CUBA

Havana Domestic Service in Spanish	<u>18,470</u>
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Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish	<u>15,920</u>
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Havana Television Cubana Network in Spanish	<u>530</u>
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Havana Television Service in Spanish	<u>11,050</u>
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DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Santo Domingo Cadena Brea Pena in Spanish	<u>1,190</u>
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Santo Domingo Radio Antillas Network in Spanish	<u>-0-</u>
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Santo Domingo LISTIN DIARIO in Spanish	<u>-0-</u>
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JAMAICA

Kingston Domestic Service in English	<u>350</u>
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Kingston DAILY GLEANER in English	<u>-0-</u>
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Kingston SUNDAY GLEANER in English	<u>-0-</u>
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MEXICO

Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish	<u>6,860</u>
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NETHERLANDS ANTILLES

Bonaire Trans World Radio in English	<u>2,100</u>
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THE NETHERLANDS

Hilversum International in English	<u>480</u>
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SURINAME

Paramaribo International Service in English	<u>4,320</u>
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OTHER SOURCES: NONE